

Message Text

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SUBJ: INDONESIA RATIFIES NARCOTICS SINGLE CONVENTION AND ADOPTS
NEW NARCOTICS LAW

REF: JAKARTA 7601 (DTG 100315Z JUN 76)

1. TWO RECENT ACTIONS OF INDONESIAN PARLIAMENT (DPR) HAVE GREATLY STRENGTHENED LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL IN INDONESIA.

2. ON JULY 1 DPR APPROVED RATIFICATION OF 1961 SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTICS TOGETHER WITH AMENDING PROTOCOL OF 1972. ON JULY 2 DPR APPROVED COMPREHENSIVE NEW NARCOTICS LAW WHICH HAS BEEN IN PREPARATION FOR ALMOST FOUR YEARS.

3. NEW LAW, WHICH REPLACES OBSOLETE DUTCH LEGISLATION DATING FROM 1927, PROVIDES FULLER AND MORE PRECISE DEFINITION OF NARCOTICS-RELATED OFFENSES AND ESTABLISHES MUCH STIFFER PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS. PRINCIPAL SUBSTANCES DEALT WITH ARE PAPAVER (OPIUM POPPY), COCA, CANNABIS, AND THEIR DERIVATIVES. LAW PROHIBITS ILLICIT CULTIVATION OF

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ANY OF THESE PLANTS AS WELL AS PRODUCTION, PROCESSING,

STORAGE, POSSESSION, TRANSPORTATION, TRAFFICKING, AND USE OF ALL NARCOTICS. HEAVIEST PENALTIES ARE FOR TRAFFICKING, IN AND TRANSPORTATION OF OPIATES, WITH VIOLATIONS PUNISHABLE BY DEATH OR LIFE OR COMBINATION OF TWENTY YEARS (MAXIMUM) AND FINE OF UP TO 50 MILLION RUPIAHS (120,000 DOLLARS). IN MOST CASES PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS INVOLVING COCAINE OR CANNABIS ARE SOMEWHAT LOWER, E.G. TRAFFICKING IN OR TRANSPORTATION OF THESE SUBSTANCES IS PUNISHABLE BY UP TO TWENTY YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND MAXIMUM FINE OF 30 MILLION RUPIAHS (72,000 DOLLARS). HEAVIEST PENALTY UNDER OLD LEGISLATION WAS FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEARS IMPRISONMENT.

4. COMING SHORTLY AFTER NATIONWIDE ROUND-UP OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND PUSHERS, THESE LATEST LEGISLATIVE STEPS ARE ADDITIONAL REFLECTION OF GROWING GOI CONCERN OVER DRUG ABUSE.
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